

**Claims**

1. Method for copying data from a tape (4) onto a storage medium, comprising the steps of  
5        scanning the tape (4) in a fast winding operation (B),  
         counting control pulses (CTL) present on the tape during the fast winding operation in a counter,  
         defining a compression rate in dependency of the  
10       number of control pulses (CTL) and the capacity of the optical medium (C, D, E), and  
         reading the data from the tape (4) and writing the data onto the storage medium by using said compression rate (G).  
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2. Method according to claim 1, **characterized in** that the control pulses (CTL) are pulses recorded on a longitudinal track of the tape (4) together with a helical scan recording, in particular are CTL pulses  
20       recorded onto a VHS tape, and that from the number of control pulses (CTL) the run length of the recording is calculated (C).
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in** that  
25       after a command of a user for initiating the method, a winding operation for winding the tape (4) to the beginning or to the end of the tape (4) is performed first, in particular a fast winding operation (A).
- 30    4. Method according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized in** that during the fast winding operation (B) for counting the control pulses (CTL), the complete tape (4) is scanned, and then wound to the beginning or to the end of the tape for performing a one touch copy  
35       operation for copying all recordings of the tape (4) onto the storage medium.

5. Method according to one of the preceding claims,  
**characterized in** that before calculating the  
compression rate for the recording, the storage medium  
is checked for defining the maximum recording time (D).  
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6. Method according to one of the preceding claims,  
**characterized in** that when calculating the compression  
rate for the recording, a reserve is included for  
taking into account counting errors of the control  
10 pulses (CTL).
7. Method according to one of the preceding claims,  
**characterized in** that the control pulses (CTL) of a  
standard play recording and the control pulses (CTL) of  
15 a long play recording are counted in different  
counters, and that a higher compression rate is defined  
for the recording performed in the long play modus, for  
example by using a factor of two.
- 20 8. Method according to one of the preceding claims,  
**characterized in** that the storage medium is an optical  
storage disk, a hard disk or a semiconductor device.
9. Appliance (1) comprising a media recorder (2), in  
25 particular a DVD recorder, a tape recorder (3), in  
particular a VHS tape recorder or a DV recorder, a  
micro-controller and a first memory, **characterized in**  
that the micro-controller performs a method according  
to one of the claims 1 - 9, using the memory for  
30 storing the control pulses.
10. Appliance according to claim 9, **characterized in** that  
the method is stored as a program in a second memory of  
the appliance associated with a micro-controller, and  
35 that the micro-controller performs the method, when  
initiated by a user via a control button of the  
appliance.